

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LA PAZ 04529 111534Z  
ACTION SCS-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 SCA-01 SSO-00 DHA-02 L-03  
H-02 NSC-05 SY-05 /038 W  
-----111538Z 038447 /42  
O 111515Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5751

UNCLAS LA PAZ 4529

FOR SCS

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: CASC (BLAIR, PHILIP, MR AND MRS)  
SUBJECT: W/W MR AND MRS PHILLIP BLAIR

REF: (A) STATE 113023, (B) DEPARTMENT OM OF APRIL 14, 1977

1. CONSUL INFORMED PHILLIP BLAIR EARLIER THIS WEEK OF EFFORTS OF THE EMBASSY TO RETRIEVE ARTICLES TAKEN FROM HIS HOME IN NOVEMBER 1976 BY POLICE AUTHORITIES.

2. ON MARCH 31, 1977 THE EMBASSY SENT A DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REQUESTING ITS ASSISTANCE IN RETRIEVING THE ARTICLES TAKEN FROM MR. BLAIR'S HOME. ON MAY 9, 1977 THE MINISTRY REPLIED WITH A NOTE STATING IT HAD REQUESTED THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR TO TAKE THE ACTION NECESSARY TO RECOVER THE LOST ARTICLES. THESE ACTION FOLLOWED A PERSONAL REQUEST IN WRITING FROM THE AMBASSADOR TO THE THEN SUBSECRETARY OF JUSTICE ON JANUARY 4, 1977 FOR HIM TO TAKE ACTION TO SEE THAT THE OBJECTS WERE RECOVERED. CONSUL HAS REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH PRESENT SUBSECRETARY OF JUSTICE BALLIVIAN TO FOLLOW UP ON MATTER. EMBASSY WILL REPLY TO DEPARTMENT'S OM IMMEDIATELY AFTER THIS APPOINTMENT.

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3. WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE BLAIRS ARE IN ANY PHYSICAL DANGER. THE BLAIRS ARE IN FREQUENT CONTACT WITH EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND THUS HAVE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS ANY CONCERNS THEY MAY HAVE FOR THEIR SAFETY. THEY HAVE EXPRESSED NONE. FURTHERMORE THE EVENING OF THE INCIDENT WHEN THE POLICE ENTERED THEIR HOME MISTAKENLY IN SEARCH FOR

AN ALLEGED SUBVERSIVE WHO ACTUALLY DID LIVE IN AN ADJOINING HOUSE AND LEFT EXTREMIST LITERATURE, THE EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER WAS AT THE BLAIRS HOME WITHIN MINUTES. THE DUTY OFFICER EFFECTIVELY AIDED THE BLAIRS, CONVINCED THE POLICE THAT THEY HAD MADE A MISTAKE AND THAT THERE WAS NO BASIS FOR TAKING THE BLAIRS TO THE POLICE STATION FOR QUESTIONING. THE TAKING OF THEIR POSSESSIONS, ALLEGEDLY FOR INVESTIGATION, AND THE FAILURE TO RETURN THEM IS INEXCUSABLE AND HAS FORMED THE BASIS FOR OUR COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE GOB. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PERSUE THIS. MR. RUSSO IN HIS LETTER OF MARCH 25 TO SENATOR JAVITS REPORTS THAT HIS FIVE YEAR OLD GRANDSON WAS APPREHENDED BY AGENTS USING MACHINE GUNS. THIS DOES NOT CORRESPOND TO ANY INFORMATION WHICH HAS BEEN FURNISHED TO THE EMBASSY. THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN TOLD THAT THE BOLIVIAN POLICE HAVE KEPT LIGHT SURVEILLANCE ON THE AREA WHERE THE PRESUMED SUBVERSIVE WAS LIVING, BUT WE KNOW OF NO PROBLEM OF SECURITY FOR THE BLAIRS WHO SEEM TO BE CONDUCTING THEIR REGULAR ACTIVITIES FREELY.

4. SENATOR JAVITS INTRESTED.

STEDMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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22 May 2009  
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